

FRIDAY | AUGUST 30, 2024

THE BEACON ACADEMY NEWSLETTER



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Deputy Head of School**

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LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

Dear Beacon Academy Community,

Good day! We just came back from a four-day weekend mandated by the government to promote local tourism. Hopefully, beyond that, the unexpected long break gave us a chance to reflect on the significance of these holidays

The long weekend was due to two holidays: one commemorating an event from 128 years ago and the other from 41 years ago. Both events were catalysts for two separate revolutions in our nation's history. The first was to break free from a colonial power that lasted for 333 years, while the second was a revolution to end a 20-year dictatorship.

One hundred twenty years ago, Andres Bonifacio had to think and act quickly because the Spaniards had discovered the Katipunan. The Revolution, which aimed to free his people, was in danger of being nipped in the bud. It was the resolve of his compatriots at the time that pushed the Revolution forward with the cry, "Long Live the Philippines!" These men and women are the heroes we honor on National Heroes Day.

Forty-one years ago, Ninoy Aquino stepped off the plane that brought him back from exile. The people who opposed the Marcos dictatorship awaited direction and inspiration from Ninoy, only to be tragically disappointed by news of his murder on the tarmac of what is now the Ninoy Aquino International Airport. These same people, along with millions of other Filipinos, would rise and exile Ferdinand Marcos Sr. Ninoy is the person we honor every year on August 21.

While the law requires us to remember, the holidays encourage and allow us to rest and reflect. However, it is up to us to make these days meaningful. Beacon Academy, in its vision, calls us to be "of consequence to the country." It is our hope that understanding the significance of these two holidays will help us determine how we can contribute to our nation.

Last weekend was a good one for me. It gave me time to attend a party, organize my sock drawer, and explore Manila with my family. Writing this letter reminded me of National Heroes Day and Ninoy Aquino Day because a newsletter should focus on important matters for young minds to consider. Next year, I promise myself to reflect on Andres Bonifacio and Ninoy Aquino to ask how I have mattered to the country and what more I can do. I invite my fellow Griffins to do the same. Long live the Philippines!

Vic Villanueva
Deputy Head of School
The Beacon Academy

IMPORTANT DATES

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Monday, September 2 | College Visit: Savannah College of Arts & Design (SCAD) |
| Tuesday, September 3 | College Visit: University of Queensland & University of Sto. Tomas (UST) |
| Wednesday, September 4 | College Visit: University of British Columbia (UBC) Filipino Month: Salu-Salo & Showcase |
| Friday, September 6 | Filipino Month: Quiz Bowl & Palaro |
| Monday, September 9 | College Visit: Singapore Institute of Management College Visit: Hong Kong University of Science and Technology |
| Tuesday, September 10 | College Visit: Temple University, Japan |
| Wednesday, September 11 | Early Release: Faculty Professional Development |

BA STUDENT BATCH REPRESENTATIVES FOR AY 2024-2025

We're happy to announce our Student Batch Representatives for this school year. Student Batch Representatives liaise closely with the Beacon Academy Student Council throughout the year and are an integral part of our community. Congratulations, Griffins!



AUTHOR VISIT: CANDY GOURLAY

Last Thursday, August 29, the Beacon Academy campus was honored to host Filipino-British author Candy Gourlay. During a talk moderated by the Academy's teacher librarian, Ms. Zarah Gagatiga, Ms. Gourlay discussed her personal journey through the world of publishing and the inspiration behind many of her award-winning books. A book signing followed the talk.



Candy Gourlay is a Filipino author known for her contributions to children's and young adult literature. She has garnered recognition for her engaging storytelling and has made a significant impact in the literary world, particularly in the realm of children's books. Her notable works include:

"Tall Story": Perhaps her most famous book, it tells the story of a teenage girl and her giant brother, blending fantasy with themes of family and identity.

"Shine": Another well-regarded novel that explores themes of self-discovery and personal growth.

Candy Gourlay's writing often addresses themes relevant to young readers, such as identity, family, and cultural heritage. Her work has been praised for its originality and its ability to engage young audiences through relatable characters and compelling narratives.



ATHLETIC SCHEDULE


GAME ANNOUNCEMENTS
ISSA VOLLEYBALL
AUGUST 31, 2024 @ ISM

| | | |
|----------|-------|------------|
| 9:30 AM | GIRLS | BA VS DOM |
| 11:00 AM | BOYS | BA VS XS-C |
| 12:30 PM | GIRLS | BA VS MC-B |


GO GRIFFINS!


BA SPORTS TEAMS
WEEKLY TRAINING SCHEDULE
2:45PM - 4:00PM

| Sports | Schedule |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Badminton | Thursday |
| Basketball | Tuesday, Thursday |
| Football | Tuesday, Thursday |
| Swimming | Wednesday, Thursday |
| Volleyball (3:00 - 5:00 pm) | Monday, Wednesday, Friday |



INTRODUCING THIS YEAR'S BA VOLLEYBALL TEAMS

ISSA BOYS
VOLLEYBALL
TEAMISSA GIRLS
VOLLEYBALL
TEAM

CLUB FAIR 2024-2025

The annual Club Fair, organized by BASC, was held on August 29th at the Auditorium. The fair showcased 13 student-led clubs that cater to a variety of interests, ranging from cooking and arts to engineering and investing.

"We aim to have as many students join as possible, regardless of their grade, to create inter-level friendships and exercise each student's individual skill sets and passions." – Chloe O. and Luccia T. (BASC Club Liaisons)

The Club Fair is an opportunity for students to learn about and join one or several clubs that will be part of their after-school life for the school year. The deadline for club sign-ups is noon on September 2, which is also the official start date for after-school club activities.



Beacon Academy Communications Protocols AY 2024-2025

| Matters relating to.... | Department / Email |
|---|---|
| Students Academic, School Life, Learning Support | Faculty Advisers / Homeroom Teachers |
| IB Diploma Programme Senior High School (G 11-12) | Iris Morga / DP Coordinator dpcoordinator@beaconacademy.ph |
| IB Middle Years Programme Junior High School (G 7-10) | Roy Villegas / MYP Coordinator mypcoordinator@beaconacademy.ph |
| College & Career Counseling | Maricar Pascual / C&C Counselor maricar.pascual@beaconacademy.ph Chinny Inumerable / C&C Counselor chinny.inumerable@beaconacademy.ph |
| Mental Health & Well-Being | Din Mendoza / JHS Counselor din.mendoza@beaconacademy.ph Vian Erasmo / SHS Counselor vian.erasmo@beaconacademy.ph |
| Curriculum, Exams, & Faculty | Ceci Francisco / Dean of Faculty dof@beaconacademy.ph |
| Student Conduct, Support, & Activities | Lui Morano / Dean of Students dos@beaconacademy.ph |
| Health, Safety, & Bus Services | Luvim Encinares / Student Services Asst. studentservices@beaconacademy.ph |
| School Records | Marnell Lagan / School Registrar registrar@beaconacademy.ph |
| Finance | Lorna Sabino / Finance Manager finance@beaconacademy.ph |
| School Leadership & Policy Child Protection Committee Committee on Decorum and Investigation | Mark Escaler / Head of School mark.escaler@beaconacademy.ph Victor Villanueva / Deputy Head of School victor.villanueva@beaconacademy.ph |



THE BEACON ACADEMY ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2024-2025

| Semester 1 JULY 2024 | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |
| Total No. of Days: 0 | | | | | | | |

| AUGUST 2024 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 2 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 3 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 4 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| Total No. of Days: 19 | | | | | | | |

| SEPTEMBER 2024 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 6 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 7 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 8 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 9 | 29 | 30 | | | | | |
| Total No. of days: 21 | | | | | | | |

| OCTOBER 2024 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | | 1 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 2 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 3 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 4 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 5 | 30 | 31 | | | | | |
| Total No. of Days: 17 | | | | | | | |

| NOVEMBER 2024 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | | 1 |
| 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 5 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 6 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 7 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 8 | 30 | | | | | | |
| Total No. of days: 20 | | | | | | | |

| DECEMBER 2024 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| 8 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 9 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |
| Total No. of days: 12 | | | | | | | |

| Semester 2 JANUARY 2025 | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | | | | | | |
| 2 | | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | | | |
| Total No. of Days: 19 | | | | | | | |

| FEBRUARY 2025 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | | | |
| 7 | | | | | | | |
| 8 | | | | | | | |
| Total No. of days: 18 | | | | | | | |

| MARCH 2025 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | | |
| 9 | | | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | | | | | | |
| 2 | | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | | | |
| Total No. of days: 18 | | | | | | | |

| APRIL 2025 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | | | |
| 7 | | | | | | | |
| Total No. of days: 17 | | | | | | | |

| MAY 2025 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | | |
| 8 | | | | | | | |
| 9 | | | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | | |
| 11 | | | | | | | |
| Total No. of days: 21 | | | | | | | |

| JUNE 2025 | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Total No. of days: 5 | | | | | | | |

IMPORTANT DATES

Jun 10 - Jul 5

Jul 1

Jul 4

Jul 8 - Aug 1

Aug 2

Aug 2

Aug 5-9

Aug 13-14

Aug TBA

Aug 21

Aug 26

Sep 11

Sep 30 - Oct 4

Oct 7-11

Oct 14

Oct 15

Oct 21-26

Nov 1

Nov 2

Nov 20

Nov 30

Dec 8

Dec 9 - Dec 13

Dec 18 - Jan 3

Jan 6

Jan 20-25

Jan 29

Jan TBA

Feb 3

Feb 10

Mar 10 - 12

March 13 - 14

March 17

Mar 24 - Apr 4

Mar 31

Apr 7

Apr 9

Apr 16 - 20

Apr 21 - 25

Apr 28 - May 21

May 1

May 12

May 19 - 23

Jun 6

Campus Break

In-Service for All New Faculty

BA Leadership & Management Returns

All Faculty In-Service

Start of Quarter 1

Parent and New Student Orientation

Classes Begin for All Students; Foundation Days

National Career Assessment Examination (NCAE) for Grade 10

National Achievement Test (Grade 11)

Special Non-Working Day: Ninoy Aquino Day

Regular Holiday: National Heroes Day

Early Release: Faculty Professional Development

MYP Exam Week

No Classes: Quarter Recess

No Classes: Faculty Professional Development

Start of Quarter 2

Parent-Teacher Conferences (Online)

Special Non-Working Day: All Saints' Day

Special Non-Working Day: All Souls' Day

Early Release: Faculty Professional Development

No Classes: Bonifacio Day

Special Non-Working Day: Feast of the Immaculate Conception

MYP/DP mid-year exam week

No Classes: Christmas/New Year Break

Start of Quarter 3

Parent-Teacher Conferences (Online)

No Classes: Chinese New Year

National Achievement Test (Grade 12)

No Classes: Binan Day

No Classes: Faculty Professional Development

MYP Exams

Quarter Recess

Start of Quarter 4

Grade 12 Mock Exams

Eid al-Fitr (TBC)

No Classes: Faculty Professional Development

Regular Holiday: Araw ng Kagitingan

No Classes: Easter Break

Grade 12 BA Pathway Exam Week

IB Diploma Examinations 2025

Regular Holiday: Labor Day

Philippine Elections 2025

MYP/DP Year-End Exam Week

Graduation Day; Last Day of School

Number of Class Days in the 1st Quarter: 44
 Number of Class Days in the 2nd Quarter: 45
 Number of Class Days in the 3rd Quarter: 45
 Number of Class Days in the 4th Quarter: 53
 Total Number of Class Days: 187

Updated 23 July 2024